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The Report from the Commiſſioners of Her Majeſty's Cuſtoms, to the Lords Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, relating to the high Duties on Prize Goods in JAMAICA.

IN Our Report of the 19th, of *May* laſt, we laid before the late Lord High-Treaſurer, the ſteps we had taken to put the Act of Parliament (which laid the Duty's complain'd of) in Execution in the Plantations; wherein we have done no more than our Duty obliged us to, in purſuance of the ſaid Act, and his Lordſhip's Directions thereupon. But in Conſideration of the Hardſhips repreſented in the ſaid Petition, which we believe in great meaſure to be true, *viz.* That theſe Dutys, generally Exceed the Value of the Goods, and where they do not, the profits after deduction were ſo ſmall, that the Privateers always made looſing Voyages, by means whereof, they were reduced from twenty Five to two Sail; that the Sea-men deſerted the Iſland for want of Subſiſtance, and Nine Hundred of them were gone to ſettle at the *Sambalos*, which wou'd prove a great Prejudice to the Trade; and that, if the Bonds taken for theſe Duties ſhould be Proſecuted, it would ruin many Families there, who are already very low; we think, if Security could be taken to anſwer the Duty's 'till the Perſons concerned ſhall have an Oppertunity of applying to Parliament, it would very much conduce to the encouragement of Captors, the Benifit of the Trade and ſecurity of that Iſland.

Cuſtom-Houſe London, Auguſt 10*th*, 1710.

F. Newport, M. Dudley, W. Culliford, J. Shute.

This Report was agreed to by the late Lords Commiſſioners of Her Majeſty's Treaſury, and the Clauſe was repealed in the laſt Seſſions of Parliament, which laid theſe high Duties; and the Bonds are now before this Honourable Houſe, taken by virtue of the ſaid Clauſe. And it is humbly hoped, they ſhall be diſcharged, to encourage the return of near three Thouſand Saylors, who have not yet received one Shilling of their Prizes for which theſe Bonds were given; and to prevent the ruin of many poor Families, and for the ſecurity of the ſaid Iſland of *Jamaica*, ſo much Impoveriſhed by the loſs of their Trade, and weakened by ſo great deſertion of their Inhabitants and Sea-faring People.

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The Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customes Report in relation to the Bonds taken at Jamaica, for Prize Goods.